

Pause for Living

SPRING 1956



new homework fashions

Honest-to-goodness work clothes have a beguiling new look this spring. It's a graceful and glamorous look, giving no indication of how much durability is built right in. Style-conscious women can choose from a whole new set of homework fashions, created for them to wear around house and garden by twenty of our top American designers. Opposite, our gardener takes time out to enjoy the Pause that Refreshes (a fashionable custom that's *always* in style), while looking simply marvellous in her brand new homework clothes. She wears a Blair Edwards full-circle denim skirt, gay with chintz appliques. This skirt, like all the other homework fashions, is made from that old reliable—durable blue denim just like that in the youngsters' jeans. Her two-piece hat, a Dachette by Lilly Daché, is both pretty and practical. It offers big, shady-brim protection from the sun, or, when the bright hat is cast aside, a 'kerchief which still keeps the hair tidily covered. *On the next page you'll find another homework fashion.*

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bow in with spring





on-the-spot

flower arranging

If you've ever had the frustrating experience of designing a perfectly lovely flower arrangement, only to discover that it was much too huge, or far too dinky for a specific location, there is an easy way to forestall such disappointments in the future. A rolling cart, ample in size and sturdy of material, provides a happy solution. A simple, well-designed cart can perform double duty as well by serving food and refreshment.

Loaded with flower arranging equipment, a number of containers and deep-water bucket filled with blooms, you can wheel your "work table" within a foot or so of any location you plan to decorate with flowers. Then it's easy to select the right container and to design a bouquet that suits its location exactly—in proportion, color, texture and form. You can check all these points as you go along by trying the arrangement in position. Think of the steps you save by omitting one or more round trips from the kitchen!

The flower arranger in our picture is feeling pretty smart these days because her rolling cart makes "doing the flowers" a breeze, her finished bouquets exactly right. She's looking smart, too, in her new homework denims—a blue tunic-top with gold-miner stripe skinny pants, designed by Ethel Novello.



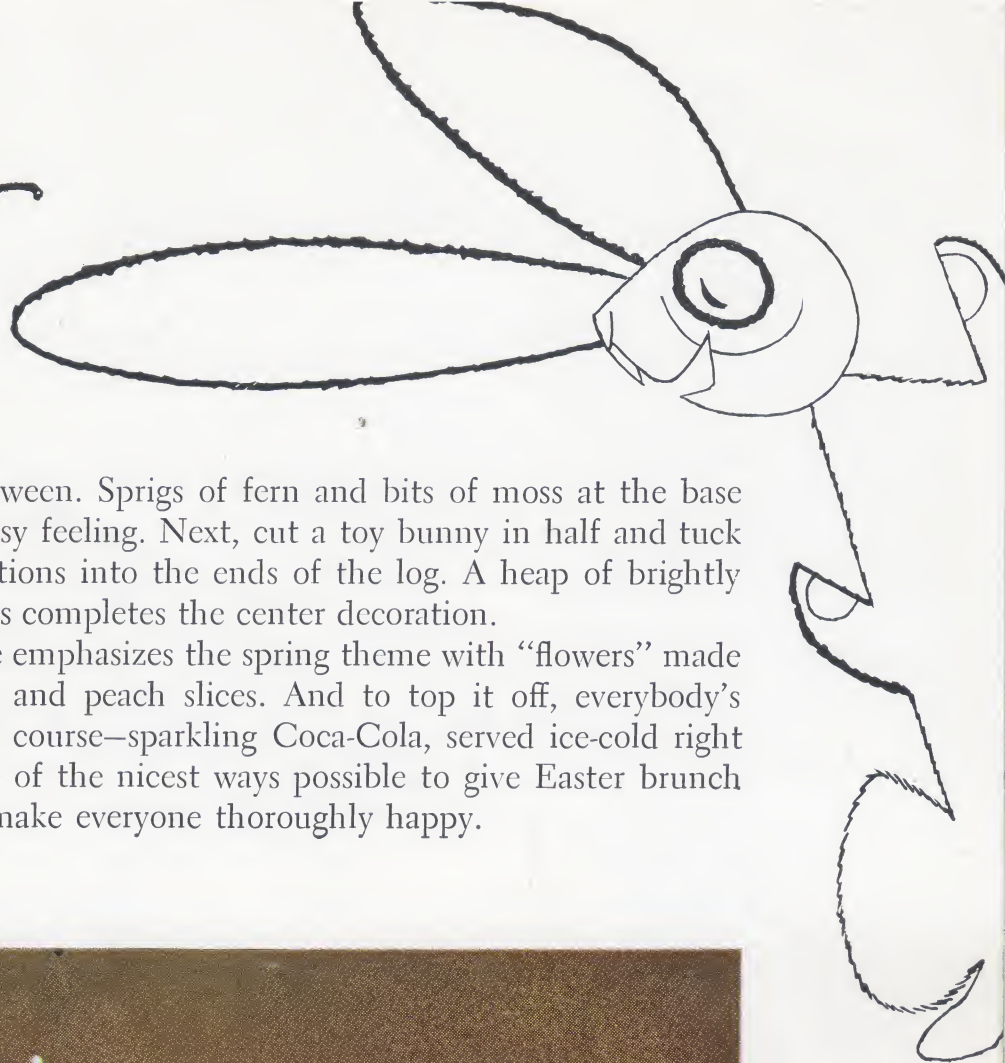
Bunny in a

Someone has played an April Fool's joke on the Easter bunny. There he is down below, stuck in a log that has stretched him out more than a little! This amusing bit of foolery is pure enchantment for the young set, a gay touch of frivolity for guests of any age.

The bunny-in-a-log centerpiece is easy to construct and takes little time, a boon to the busy homemaker involved with the serious business of preparing the Easter ham. This is how you do it: First, make a casual arrangement of spring blooms, using a pinholder to keep the flowers firmly in position. Any container will do as it will be concealed from sight. Although the log appears to be whole, except for a hollow center, actually it is two lengthwise sections which you place together



Log



with the flowers between. Sprigs of fern and bits of moss at the base add a pleasant woodsy feeling. Next, cut a toy bunny in half and tuck the fore and aft portions into the ends of the log. A heap of brightly decorated Easter eggs completes the center decoration.

The dessert course emphasizes the spring theme with "flowers" made of vanilla ice cream and peach slices. And to top it off, everybody's favorite refresher, of course—sparkling Coca-Cola, served ice-cold right from the bottle, one of the nicest ways possible to give Easter brunch a festive air and to make everyone thoroughly happy.





easy-to-do flower arranging

If you've ever been tempted to stuff a large bunch of gladioli helter-skelter into the nearest container, it's probably because the tall spikes seem stiff and unwieldy. Actually, glads are remarkably versatile but it takes a trick or two. Try cutting a long spike into two or three units, as shown in the drawing opposite. Tuck single large florets at the base of an arrangement. This is the way to convert a line flower to round flower use for greater variety in design. Here and on the following pages you can see what amazing variety you can achieve using only gladioli with different types of contrasting foliage.



6 gladioli
eucalyptus
footed bowl
chicken wire
pinholder

materials for lesson 6



One complete gladiolus establishes the vertical line at the center of the container.



A second complete glad places the right horizontal line.



A long, slim branch of eucalyptus places the left horizontal line. Immediately above this, the third complete glad aids in describing the silhouette and fills in part of the mass area.



On the right side, the slim upper units of three glads perform the same function.



The focal point is emphasized and the mass area completed with the addition of the three lower gladioli units.



Several sprigs of eucalyptus foliage add color contrast and complete the silhouette.

design form—a triangle with equal sides.

location of completed arrangement—a centered position on an important piece of furniture against the wall.

mechanical aid—chicken wire over a pinholder.

suggested substitutes—any footed container of round or oval shape; snapdragon, delphinium or stock as line flowers; daffodil, peony, rose or carnation as round flowers; podocarpus, pittosporum or salal foliage.

preparation—Cut each of three glads into two units, varying the lengths to suit the design.





1



2



3

the versatile gladiolus

Try your hand at making these easy-to-do arrangements . . . three dramatic designs for the price of a dozen glads.

1

two gladioli with their own foliage in a low horizontal arrangement—such lovely color for the dinner table! Two large florets, cut from the red spike, are tucked separately at the front of the design. A pinholder keeps the flowers in place.

2

three gladioli, bursting with beautiful blooms, are posed with great drama against three huge ti leaves. This slender vertical arrangement in its contrasting blue container is striking decoration for an entrance hall. Chicken wire supports the flowers.

3

seven gladioli blend harmonious colors against a background of salal foliage—an important bouquet for the living room. Six spikes in varying lengths describe the form of the design which is a triangle with unequal sides. The seventh glad, in the darkest color, is separated into three units. These are placed at the base of the design to form the focal point. A pinholder keeps the flowers firmly in place.



the host ta

This is directed to any man who may still imagine that cooking is woman's work. We think that such a man should be advised that men all over the country today are unleashing their inventiveness in the kitchen and discovering hidden talents. Bachelor or benedict, messenger boy or business tycoon, the male of the species has found that he can reap a heap of praise for culinary accomplishment. He's learned, too, that when good food is attractively served it takes on a positively epicurean air. Some men go in for one or two specialties and become famous for them. Others become so adept at stirring up complicated concoctions that they could make a dish for the gods out of last year's hat. The truth



akes over

is, cooking is a fascinating challenge for anyone. It seems only natural that every man would want to establish his superiority in this field. And ladies, why not give the man in your life a little nudge of encouragement. Let him have his moment of glory as an amateur chef. Even we have to admit that the world's best professional chefs are men!

our host-cook likes to serve sparkling, ice-cold Coca-Cola, always a favorite with gourmets. The lobster in his menu keynotes the theme of his table setting and the container for flowers is a real lobster trap.





decorate with *geraniums*

Geraniums are the rage again. Although their popularity has gained and waned since they first were brought to England and America from South Africa in the seventeenth century, never before have they been used in so many different decorative ways. In recent years, the bright blooms have turned up in the fashion world, clustered in a nosegay pinned to a sophisticated shoulder. Occasionally they set the floral theme for a pretty wedding. The cut blooms are the flower arranger's delight and may appear in a design of formal elegance or one of studied casualness.

Scores of exciting varieties with spectacularly brilliant blooms and uniquely marked foliage provide a wide range of choice for room decoration—dramatic accents for a contemporary or traditional mood. There are giants and dwarfs to accommodate any space problem. There are ivy-leaved varieties with graceful trailing habits, and the fancy color-leaved geraniums so dearly loved in Queen Victoria's day.

The scented-leaved varieties are appealing not only for the engaging variations of their beautiful leaf forms but for their practical use in cooking. Any plant collector who is a bit of a gourmet at heart can take special pleasure in adding piquant flavor to jellies, cakes and soups merely by plucking a few leaves from the plants in her window. The indoor-outdoor characteristics of most varieties of geranium plants appeal to everyone. Easy to care for, they provide six months of bloom in a sunny window, then move outside to add great decorative interest to patio, terrace or garden.



ablemates

bright yellow tulips offer a delightful contrast to the green floral pattern on the white plate. As in any phase of home decorating, a good rule of thumb for color planning is this: Choose one dominant color and no more than one or two color accents. While the stylized flower form of this dinnerware pattern cannot be duplicated exactly in the fresh flowers, its traditional mood is echoed in other accessories.

An outstanding table setting, satisfying to hostess and guests alike, is partly a matter of pleasing colors, partly a matter of interesting forms. But above all, it is the harmonious relationship of each element to all the others. It's simply a matter of choosing happy tablemates.

Frequently it is the way you use flowers that underscores or even establishes this feeling of kinship. Flowers have a special talent for unifying, complementing and dramatizing all other table accessories.

When you select the components for any table setting, always keep in mind that dining is a time for pleasure and relaxation. You can insure relaxation by eliminating those things which make for confusion in any picture—too many shapes, colors, textures. You can guarantee pleasure for all who share the hospitality of your board with the way you use your imagination to achieve beauty and variety in every table setting.

On the next page, you'll find additional ways to mate table accessories.

an informal mixed bouquet effectively repeats all of the colors and the theme established by the dinnerware pattern. Although this may seem to contradict the color-planning suggestion above, notice how the multi-color elements appear only in a group as a bright accent against a single dominant color—green. We take a tip from Nature here, using green generously, always a harmonious background color for wide variety in brilliant flower colors.



how to set



the spiky petals of pompons seem to echo and approve the geometric design of the imported dinnerware below. A dress-up mood is set by the graceful arrangement of flowers and candles in the footed candelabra, sustained by the delicate stemmed goblet and dainty linen place mat. Note that only two colors are used here. Turquoise is dominant with white as the accent.

In the photograph above, flowers and table accessories reverse the entire feeling. Rough textured linen mat, wood-handled stainless steel flatware and other wood accessories are perfectly suited to the dinnerware. A casual bouquet of yellow daffodils and chrysanthemums offers sharp color contrast to the turquoise mat and plate. Same dinnerware, different accessories and you can see how the mood of the entire table setting changes completely. But one thing in this picture never changes and that's the sparkling goodness of ice-cold Coca-Cola. Coke goes with everything!

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a mood

unadorned white china is the foil against which a limitless variety of flower arrangements and table accessories may be played. With no other pattern to distract, any flower form is suitable. Plain white may set a formal or informal mood in a traditional or contemporary manner. Below, orange and yellow roses star at the table while other appointments repeat the yellow. A rather ornate silver pattern complements the simplicity of china and glass, and the metallic threads in cloth and napkin further define the feeling of elegance.

Illustrating the point of change with accessories, the photograph above shows the plain white plate with gay pink and white striped linen, pink and white coin-dot tumbler, ceramic handled flatware, a basket spilling over with a profusion of pink spring flowers. No doubt about it, plain white china is a wonderful basis for variety in table setting.



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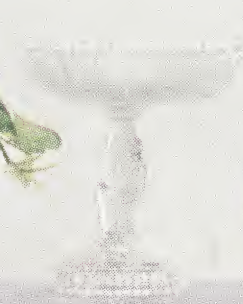
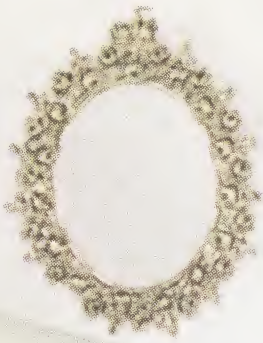
no. 1 of a series

directions for Collections

Anyone who likes to arrange flowers soon discovers that this hobby inspires another which is equally engaging—the collecting of flower containers. In the grip of collector's fever, it's easy to become the confused owner of a hodge-podge collection with each item an example of impeccable taste but so out of tune with other pieces that the group cannot be displayed as a whole.

A true collector in the Western world likes to show off a treasured collection arranged to advantage on shelves or in open cabinets. The Oriental way of bringing out one choice piece at a time may have its merit, but we like to enjoy all of our treasures all of the time so long as they are coordinated in a harmonious way in our homes. That's why it is usually more fun to pick a single period style to give clarity and direction to collecting pursuits. Or you might settle for containers made of a particular material—metals, including brass, copper, pewter, silver; glass of one or two kinds, or pottery, or china. Again, your personal preference may lead you to collect variations of a single item such as bottles, baskets, or shells.

In this issue of *PAUSE for Living*, we are introducing a new series, planned especially for flower arrangers who are enjoying the delightful malady of collector's fever. We hope this series will inspire a variety of new directions for flower container collections. *continued on page 22*



continued from page 20

Our first collection refers back to another period in history when the art of flower arranging was at fever pitch. In Queen Victoria's day every accomplished young lady knew how to compose a pretty bouquet for the parlor table. *Godey's Lady's Book* carried an article on flower arranging in every issue. It was a mark of the cultivated person to take an interest in botany and gardening.

All this enthusiasm for flowers created a great demand for flower containers and they were turned out assembly line style as the new machine age came into its own. Fussy, overdone decoration was applied to baroque and rococo shapes of all kinds. The flowers on the vases vied with the fresh flowers inside, all too often with unhappy results. It takes a discerning eye today to select from these original Victorian flower containers those which adhere to our modern conception that the container should be of secondary importance to the flowers. That's why our collection shows few original vases of this period, omitting completely the garish flower-bedecked specimens.

We think the real adventure is in searching out those things which our Victorian ancestors assigned to utilitarian purposes—the small cast iron stove, opposite, a powder jar, a sewing box, a perfume bottle in a gilt holder, or pitchers and bowls of vase-line glass, opaline and pink luster. Many of these objects can hold their own with the good design of any period; others are quaint, amusing conversation pieces. But all are lovely inspiration for modern flower arrangements, designed to reflect the romantic mood of Victoria's day.





Acknowledgments

We wish to thank the following firms for their cooperation in making their products available for use in our color photographs which were created especially for **PAUSE FOR LIVING**. For information about merchandise in this issue, please write to us at 1151 Roscoe St., Chicago 13, Illinois.



p. 3 Gardener's homework denims by Blair Edwards—Blair Sportswear; Dachette garden hat by Lilly Daché; garden tools and basket—Max Schling Seedsmen, Inc.; rattan server—Hurricane Imports; poodle—The Zangs Co.

p. 5 Flower arranger's homework denims by Ethel Novello—Korday Sportswear; wall shelf—Vesta French.

p. 12-13 Cloth, napkins and apron—Palmer-Smith; plates—Franciscan, Oasis pattern; shell-shaped serving pieces—Sun Glo Studios; flatware—Carvel Hall; casserole—Color Clad from George F. Dahlman; salt and pepper—Schiller & Asmus, Inc.; tub for Coke—J. Lane Chair Co.

p. 17 Plate—Spode, Rembrandt pattern; glass—Waertsila, Verra pattern; flatware—National Silver Co., Panel Rose pattern; place mat and napkin—Leacock & Co., Inc.; flower container—Mottahedeh & Sons.

p. 18 (color photograph)—Plate—Caribe China, Inc., Canille pattern; goblet—Fostoria Glass Co.; flatware—The International Silver Co., Silver Rhythm pattern; place mat—Fallani & Cohn, Inc. (black-and-white photograph)—plate, salt and pepper—Caribe China, Inc., Canille pattern; flatware by Dansk—Findlay Galleries, Chicago; place mat and napkin—Leacock & Co., Inc.

p. 19 (color photograph)—China—Arzberg; goblet—D. Stanley Corcoran, Inc.; flatware—The International Silver Co., Silver Iris pattern; place mat and napkin—Chicago Weaving Corp. (black-and-white photograph)—china—Arzberg; flatware—Findlay Galleries, Chicago; water glass—Fenton Art Glass Co.

p. 21 Wallpaper—Denst & Soderlund.

back cover Spanish serving cart—Embassy Publishing & Trading Co., Inc., from Mangel Florist, Chicago.

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